

REMARKS

Claims 24, 26, 28-36 and 38-44 are pending in this application, of which claims 24, 28, 30, 32, 34, 35, 39, 41 and 43 are independent.

Rejections Under § 112

Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness in the claim limitation "to perform useful work." In response, claim 34 has been amended to remove this limitation.

Rejections Under § 102(B)

Claims 24, 26, 29, 31, 34, 35, 38 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,435,925 to Mabru.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge the allowability of claims 25, 28, 30, 32, 33, 37, 39, 41, 43 and 44.

Applicants amend the claims as follows. Claim 24 is amended to include the limitation of allowable claim 25 and claim 25 is cancelled. Allowable claims 28, 30, 32 are rewritten in independent form. Claims 26, 29, 31 and 33 depend from allowable claim 24, as amended, and are allowable with it. Although claim 34 as amended does not include all of the limitations of allowable claim 37, Applicants submit that it is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 37. Claim 35 is amended to include the limitation of allowable claim 37 and claim 37 is cancelled. Allowable claims 39, 41 and 43 are rewritten in independent form. Claims 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 depend from allowable claim 35 and are allowable with it.

The undersigned remains available for consultation should the Examiner question the allowability of the claims as presently worded.

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Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

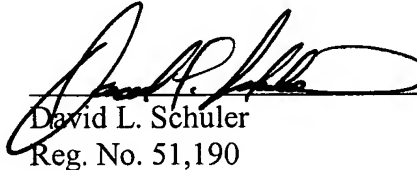
Enclosed is a \$510 check for the Petition for Extension of Time and a \$600 check for excess claim fees.

Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing the above attorney docket number.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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